

Weather Forecast

Generally fair and somewhat colder today; tomorrow increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer; moderate winds mostly northwest today. Temperatures yesterday—Highest, 46, at 3 p.m.; low—est, 26 at 4 a.m. Full report, page A-2.

The Sunday Star

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(P) Means
Associated Press.

FIVE CENTS
IN WASHINGTON AND SUBURBS

TEN CENTS
ELSEWHERE

President's Defense Message To Congress This Week Due To Stir Up Heated Controversy

Critics See Program a 'Red Herring' to Cover New Deal Errors

By G. GOULD LINCOLN.
President Roosevelt will throw into the lap of the Seventy-sixth Congress a new—and according to administration spokesmen—burning issue, increased national defense, when he appears before that body in joint session Wednesday.

Despite the patriotic appeal, the administration's program of increased armament gives promise of being hotly contested. The President's appeal will be made to Congress directly—and, over its head to the country, as well.

The administration's point of view was expressed yesterday by Senator Key Pittman, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Replying to a question, "Do world conditions call for increased armaments in the United States?" he said:

"What did England find? What did France find—and both too late. This country has for years urged the nations to limit armaments and even to disarm. Instead of following this advice, Nations in the East and in Europe are engaged in fighting each other. But after those wars are over, what then?"

"Three countries are ruled by dictators or governments that amount to dictatorship. They have been taught by these governments that the way of advancement is through war. They have prepared themselves for war and, with or without fighting, they have had their way recently."

"The United States cannot build up its defense overnight. The best insurance against war, as we see it, under world conditions today, is to be prepared to resist any attack."

Personal Planes Needed.
Senator Pittman said American authorities are fully informed regarding the armaments of other nations—and that some of this information is startling. The naval program of the United States, voted by the last Congress, goes a long way toward improving this country's situation—particularly if it is speeded up. But what the country needs particularly, he said, is an increase in trained personnel and increased facilities for the production of airplanes and other vital arms.

Against this administration position is the demand of many members of Congress that any program for increased armaments be carefully examined—by congressional committees—to determine whether they are actually needed for "defense."

There is, too, a declaration by some administration opponents that the present demand for increased armaments is a political move on the part of the New Dealers, designed to take the mind of the country off the "failure" of the farm and recovery programs and the "scandal" of the W. P. A. and its use in politics, not to mention the defeat of New Dealers in the last elections.

This is a view emphatically expressed yesterday by several Democratic Senators who have opposed the New Deal—and who have been opposed by the New Dealers. At this time they did not wish to be quoted.

Political Defense, Hints Barton
Representative Bruce Barton of New York, Republican, who returned to Washington yesterday, however, was outspoken. He predicted the new Congress would not allow the country to be stampeded on the question of national defense, issuing a formal statement in which he said:

"How much of this program really (See DEFENSE, Page A-4.)"

New Year Resolutions

Reciprocity in Fair Play Should Be The Hope of Congress and the Washington Community

Editorial Correspondence of The Star.

THEODORE W. NOYES.

This is the day for new year resolutions and the expression of hope for better things to come.

The Washington community and the Congress which governs it might appropriately combine in the adoption of resolutions to turn over a new leaf in the relationship which so closely joins them together. And both, with good reason, might hope for better things to come.

The 76th Congress, which is our new national, state and municipal legislature, will soon be functioning and in the process will make decisions of great importance to the people of Washington, if not to those of their home districts, upon urgent items of local legislation and appropriations. Those decisions can be of utmost benefit to the Washington community or they can, as

shown in the past, threaten and accomplish deep injury to the Washington community.

In what spirit will the Congress, with its large percentage of new members in both House and Senate, approach this legislation? In what spirit will the Capital community welcome its legislators, new and old, and co-operate with them in sensible suggestion of wise and just laws and in rejection of such as are inequitable?

Harmful Talk on Both Sides.

The Washingtonian, powerless to participate effectively in his own taxation and government and impotent to withstand those individual legislators, who, he believes, have abused their power to tax and govern him, has in particular instances exercised too freely and offensively the privilege of the hopelessly defeated litigant of "cussing the court." And also in individual instances the District's legislators, with all powers in their hands to wound and even to destroy, have taken too great offense at the verbal splutterings of the aggrieved and helpless and have too vigorously retaliated.

Too many of Washington's legislators have come to view their constituents as unappreciative, ungrateful, greedy, selfish and censorious, and too many of these constituents, also generalizing too broadly, have come to view the legislators, selected for them by the Constitution, as carelessly ignorant of their needs, as contemptuously indifferent to and neglectful of their welfare or as actively hostile.

The crying need of the hour is a change of thought, a change of heart, a new policy under which each of the Capital-building partners shall heed the injunction "Put yourself in his place!" with the result of substituting mutual appreciation for recrimination. Fair play and mutual regard are watchwords of the new policy.

Fair Play for Congress.

The Washingtonian in accordance with it will render deserved and delayed tribute of grateful appreciation to the long line of Senators and Representatives, who have faithfully performed the unselfish, difficult and almost thankless task of dealing as considerately and justly with their Capital constituency as with their home constituents. Washington knows and honors these men—its loyal, helpful friends, public-spirited workers in the task of Capital building, though it may not have put this appreciation

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

Scientists Warned Of Part to Preserve Democracy

Advised to Guard That Progress Is Not Used To Destroy Liberty

By THOMAS R. HENRY,
Star Staff Correspondent.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 31.—The council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science received today a detailed plan, submitted by Dr. Harold G. Urey of Columbia University, Nobel Prize winner, and Dr. Oscar Riddle of the Carnegie Institution of Washington for utilizing the aid of the sciences in solving social and economic problems.

The plan, the two scientists explained, is the result of a three-year study by 100 leaders from nearly every field of American life, including scientists, businessmen, labor and agricultural leaders, sociologists, economists, attorneys and physicians.

The time is not ripe, Dr. Riddle and Urey explained, for a public announcement of any more details of the plan. The statement follows:

"From the standpoint of the use of science, the great basic problem of our generation is how to make actually available for our people the great advances of science and industry and the tremendous productive potentialities resulting therefrom."

"From the standpoint of the misuse of science, the scientist is and (See SCIENCE, Page A-6.)"

First D. C. Baby Of New Year Born at 12:01

Washington's first baby of the new year was born just a few seconds past midnight this morning to Mrs. Clifton S. Wynn, 3244 Walnut street N.E., at Georgetown Hospital.

Birth of the 7-pound 14-ounce girl was delivered on the hospital records at 12:01 a.m., but attendants said the infant arrived during the first minute of the new year, while bells were still ringing in celebration of the advent of 1939.

Domestic Silver Price Is Continued at 64.64 Cents

President Proclaims Old Rate Effective Until June 30

By the Associated Press.

Substituting of silver, one of earliest of New Deal programs, was started in 1933 to aid Western mining States and create a mild inflation which would raise farm prices. World prices soared to 81 cents, later fell to what Treasury was willing to pay, 45 cents since last March. The domestic price, up to 77.57 cents in 1935, was fixed at 64.64 cents by the President December 31, 1937.

President Roosevelt continued at 64.64 cents per ounce yesterday the Treasury's price for newly mined domestic silver.

In fixing the price by proclamation, the President directed that the silver must be delivered to a United States coinage mint not later than June 30, 1939.

The proclamation is effective only up to that date. Mr. Roosevelt's power to fix the price of domestic silver by proclamation, and his right to change the dollar's gold content, both will expire then unless Congress renews them.

Silver delivered to a coinage mint after June 30, 1939, will not be eligible for receipt under yesterday's proclamation even though mined prior to that date.

Urged by Western States.

Congressmen from Western silver-mining States urged the President not to reduce the price, contending that to do so would throw miners out of work.

Critics of the Government's silver purchase program have contended in the past that the difference between the world price of silver and the higher price paid by the Treasury for domestic silver represented a subsidy for producers in this country.

No statement was made yesterday about the Treasury's price for foreign and other silver, which is kept on a day-to-day basis, and has been 43 cents per ounce since last March. Most of the Treasury's silver purchases, particularly metal from China, Mexico and Canada, are made at this "other" price.

Altogether, since the New Deal's purchase program began, the Treasury has purchased 1,639,000 ounces of silver at an average cost of 56.3 cents an ounce. In 1934 Congress said in the Silver Purchase Act that silver was worth \$1.29 per ounce, giving the Treasury's present silver stocks of approximately 2,500,000 ounces a monetary value of more than \$325,000,000. Most of the silver came from foreign

(See SILVER, Page A-4.)

The Old West Lives Again!

Follow
"RED RYDER"
for
Thrills . . .
Comedy . . .
Romance . . .
Adventure . . .
TODAY
and every Sunday
in the comic section

Washington Hails 1939 With More Noise Than Hilarity

Capacity Night Club Crowds Are Denied Stimulants After 12

Washington hailed 1939 with more noise than hilarity early today.

Capacity crowds in the night clubs were cut off from alcoholic stimulants just as the New Year arrived, sharply on the stroke of 12.

Only one 1939 casualty was reported early today, while thousands remained out until the small hours and revelry went on in dance places from which orchestras had departed.

The first victim of the New Year celebration was Miss Marie Harden, 16, of 229 K street N.E., who was shot in the hip, presumably by a celebrant, while standing with her parents in the front porch of their home a few minutes after midnight.

The family party had issued from their home to hear the bells and bedlam of motor horns, locomotive whistles and shouts. Miss Harden suddenly felt a burning sensation in her hip. Learning she had been hit by a bullet, she was hurried to Sibley Hospital.

There doctors had not immediately determined whether she was seriously wounded.

Waiters Are Vigilant.

It was the first New Year with a Sunday closing hour which Washington had experienced since repeal. At hotels, night clubs and "hot spots," squads of vigilant waiters were on hand to snatch glasses of alcoholic beverages from the hands of celebrants. Extra details of detectives and inspectors from the A. B. C. Board were on hand to see that the strict letter of the law was enforced.

Virtually every downtown moving picture theater gave a midnight performance to "standing room only" audiences.

Several blocks long led to the box offices at least an hour before the 12 o'clock shows started. A score of traffic officers were detailed to downtown F street to break the jams of motor vehicles.

In addition to the moving picture crowds, at least 1,500 persons were moving on downtown F street, into the party at the National Press Club and into several functions at the Willard Hotel.

The extra policemen stood by for the most part with good-natured grins on their faces. They refused to trade their caps for paper hats.

(See NEW YEAR, Page A-5.)

Five Perish as Fire Razes Maine Hotel

By the Associated Press.

RUMFORD, Me., Dec. 31.—Five persons perished tonight in a fire that burned the Falls View Hotel to the ground.

Sam McLaughlin, hotel clerk, said he was "certain" five persons lost their lives as the three-story, 30-room wooden building was leveled.

The list of dead furnished by Mr. McLaughlin:

Mrs. Peter Maelis, about 36, wife of the hotel's owner; their three children, Virginia, 6, Mildred, 10, and Georgia, 5, and Russ Rogers, about 45, of Upper Dam.

The bodies were not immediately recovered.

The number of guests was not known immediately. Firemen from Mexico and Rumford battled the blaze. Damage was estimated unofficially at \$20,000.

(See GERMANY, Page A-5.)

Dictators Face '39 With Hope For New Strength Together

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—Nazi determination to grow stronger in the new year was expressed on every hand tonight in the last hours of 1938—the breath-taking year which, in the words of Chancellor Hitler, "brought realization of a dream of centuries."

These resolutions for 1939 expressed the official determination to achieve a stronger army, a stronger navy, stronger export trade, stronger muscles—stronger everything.

"I am certain," said Hitler in a message to the army, "that you also in the future will always be ready

Fraud and 'Chiseling' In District Relief Are Charged in Report

Drastic Steps Urged To Punish Guilty, Change Methods

BACKGROUND—

Belief of Chairman Collins of House Subcommittee on District Appropriations and members of Congress that District public relief "load" was too heavy resulted in appropriation of \$20,000 by last Congress to investigate entire relief setup. Advisory committee of citizens headed by Ringgold Hart, former principal assistant corporation counsel, selected Burdette G. Lewis, social worker, to make inquiry.

By JAMES E. CHINN.

"Lackadaisical" methods of handling District relief cases have resulted in widespread fraud and "chiseling," according to the first section of the report of Burdette G. Lewis, director of the public relief investigation, made public last night by Chairman Ross Collins of the House Committee on District Appropriations.

Drastic steps to recover funds fraudulently procured and to prosecute the guilty were recommended. To carry out that plan, Mr. Lewis urged the creation of a special bureau of investigation to work directly with the corporation counsel and the United States district attorney.

The report declared:

"The number of frauds and the amount of 'chiseling' is so large as to warrant ending of the present lackadaisical methods of handling cases in the Public Assistance Division and in other agencies and the organization of an effective bureau of investigation to prepare information for the use of the corporation counsel and the United States district attorney in effecting settlements and for prosecutions."

Seeks Relief Economies.

Mr. Lewis also made a series of other recommendations, most of them designed to effect economies in administration of public relief and to increase the efficiency of those agencies connected with the problem. The principal plan would involve complete reorganization of the various agencies dealing with relief, employment and public welfare, and their placement under a proposed department of employment and social affairs.

In addition to fraud and "chiseling," the report further declared, the relief investigation disclosed:

1. That "the few get too much and the many too little" of public assistance.

2. That the Board of Public Welfare is not in accordance with an "outmoded" formula in handling relief cases.

3. That Public Assistance Division statistics and its system of estimating financial needs are "almost crude, usually inadequate and commonly insufficient for a modern department of public welfare."

4. That the management of the Public Assistance Division is inefficient.

5. That there are many and unnecessary "cruel disappointments" to applicants for W. P. A. work, unemployment compensation benefits, social security, and general relief grants.

50,000 Jobless Average.

Mr. Lewis found there was an average of 50,000 unemployed in the District for the first eight months of 1938, of whom about 13,000 were engaged in various kinds of emergency government work, and 7,500 on direct relief or receiving social security grants. And he added: "Among these was a larger number of single individuals than usually have been found elsewhere."

In order to "lessen promptly" the number on District W. P. A. relief rolls, Mr. Lewis declared the requirements of the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works giving preference in employment to persons on public relief rolls should be adopted and enforced by all agencies of the Government awarding contracts for any of the construction work to be undertaken in the District.

He pointed out that projects estimated to cost about \$25,000,000 to be initiated in the District in 1939, which should provide a year's employment for 9,435 unskilled and semi-unskilled workers, completely relieving the W. P. A. rolls of every worker, physically and mentally capable of performing unskilled work.

For the last five years, Mr. Lewis said, an average of \$9,453,562 a year had been expended on relief, W. P. A. and all sorts of social security grants. The adoption of his program, he explained, would require an additional \$143,812 at the outset, but twice that amount could be saved possibly by December, 1939, or certainly by June 30, 1940.

These changes, too, he declared, "will facilitate the formulation of the organized long-range plans of action which can be financed regu-

(See ITALY, Page A-5.)



BURDETTE G. LEWIS.

larly, be changed as conditions warrant and be worked out so as to end the wastes and brainstorms which have characterized the succeeding emergency.

The proposed department of employment and social security would be headed by an executive director, who would be responsible to the Commissioners and the various Federal agencies or departments concerned with the relief program. These include the Treasury, Labor, Interior and Agriculture, Departments, the Social Security Board and the W. P. A.

Under such a setup, Mr. Lewis explained, there could be closer cooperation between the proposed consolidated departments and the various divisions of the Federal departments in dealing with "indiv-

(See D. C. RELIEF, Page A-4.)

Street Defends Democratic Type Of Management

Informed of fraud and "chiseling" charges of relief clients, Elwood Street, director of public welfare, said last night he was not "surprised" because of the acute shortage of employees in the agencies handling relief cases.

"We have repeatedly asked for more personnel," he declared. "Our staff is twice overloaded."

"Mr. Street also came to the defense of the 'management' of the Public Assistance Division, criticized in the report for inefficiency.

"Miss Alice Hill, director of the Public Assistance Division," he said, "was selected as being the best available person in the country for the work. In my opinion, she has done a difficult job well."

Type of Executive Disputed.

As for Mr. Lewis' statement that "the director of public welfare is not a real chief administrative officer and has been acting more as a co-ordinator to other District officials," Mr. Street said:

"There seems to be a fundamental difference between Mr. Lewis and me over the functions of an executive. I am of the democratic type. I believe in democracy."

Frederick W. McReynolds, chairman of the Board of Public Welfare, issued a prepared statement prior to the publication of the report, criticizing both Mr. Lewis and the Citizens' Advisory Committee which selected him to make the inquiry, for not submitting the document to the board in advance of its release to the press "for examination and correction or error in respect to facts which might perhaps inadvertently have crept into it, especially as copies were made available to other District officials."

September Statements Criticized.

The remainder of his statement follows:

"Such opportunity for inspection and possible correction would have been especially desirable in view of the further fact that on September 27 and 28, 1938, Mr. Lewis made public statements which presumably were part of his report, and which were proved to be based on erroneous statement of alleged facts."

"The prejudice and intemperance shown by Mr. Lewis in his statements at that time will not affect the open-minded attitude of the Board of Public Welfare toward the report as now submitted.

"Neither I nor any other member of the Board of Public Welfare, or, so far as I know, any employee of the board, has seen the report or any part of it. When it is received the Board of Public Welfare will be glad to study it thoroughly. It cost \$20,000 of the taxpayers' money. It ought to be sound and applicable to local conditions, and which may be possible within the appropriations, the laws and the governmental regulations under which the Board of Public Welfare operates."

"The Board of Public Welfare is anxious to improve procedures and to correct errors which may be found in the operation of any of the institutions and agencies for the administration of which it is responsible. It is continually studying the subject and is glad to have suggestions and time from any informed citizen."

No. 1939 Disconnected

NORFOLK, Neb., Dec. 31 (AP).—O. H. Johnson had his telephone disconnected tonight. His number is 1939.

Radio Programs, Page E-3

Complete Index, Page A-2

Roy Kelly, Long Hunted As Slayer, Is Caught

By the Associated Press.

SOUTH HILL, Va., Dec. 31.—Roy Kelly, 22-year-old North Carolina convict, was taken to the slaying of two officers, was arrested here last night as he stepped from a lunchroom on the outskirts of town. A wide search had been conducted for him, Washington, D. C., police having hunted him here at one time.

Kelly told officers he spent yesterday here. Prior to that, he said he was in Mississippi, where he obtained the car he was driving. A bullet hole in the windshield, he said, was the result of a "scrape" he was in while in Mississippi. He was armed with a .45-caliber pistol, with one empty magazine. Police said they found six license plates in the rear of the car, two Mississippi tags, one North Carolina tag, and three Virginia tags.

In his pocket was a letter bearing the name of "Sheriff Earl D. Burton." The letter, the sheriff was not given. The letter, "Recommendation for advancement to parole," said:

"I take this means of recommending Roy Kelly for advancement to a grade subject to his prison record there. I feel sure this boy would not betray an advantage shown him and I feel he can get recommendations for parole when the proper time comes."

Ten Virginia state troopers, three North Carolina officers and the four officers who made the arrest questioned Kelly for several hours tonight. Later he was taken to Henrico County jail to Richmond.

Worker Says Fire "Bad."

Ellsworth Graves of Rosedale, one of the rescue workers, came up choking and vomiting after five hours of fighting the fire and reported:

"The fire is in bad shape, but they're finally getting some water on it. We tapped on the telephone line to the men and got an answer that they were all O. K. Down Kelly, we were poundin' it, and then you get awful sick."

Graves is a miner employed in the mine and has a brother, Jim, 43, among the imprisoned men.

Harry Dunlap, a Clinton fireman, came out of the mine and described the situation inside like this:

"It's all just a lot of fire, with a continual roar and rattle."

Dunlap said the rescue workers had succeeded in getting air into circulation in the mine, so as to draw the gas and smoke away from the men and out of the mine.

Through the tapped signals, the trapped miners reported the air around them was still good, Ellsworth Graves said. They also reported killing three mine mules in the mine.

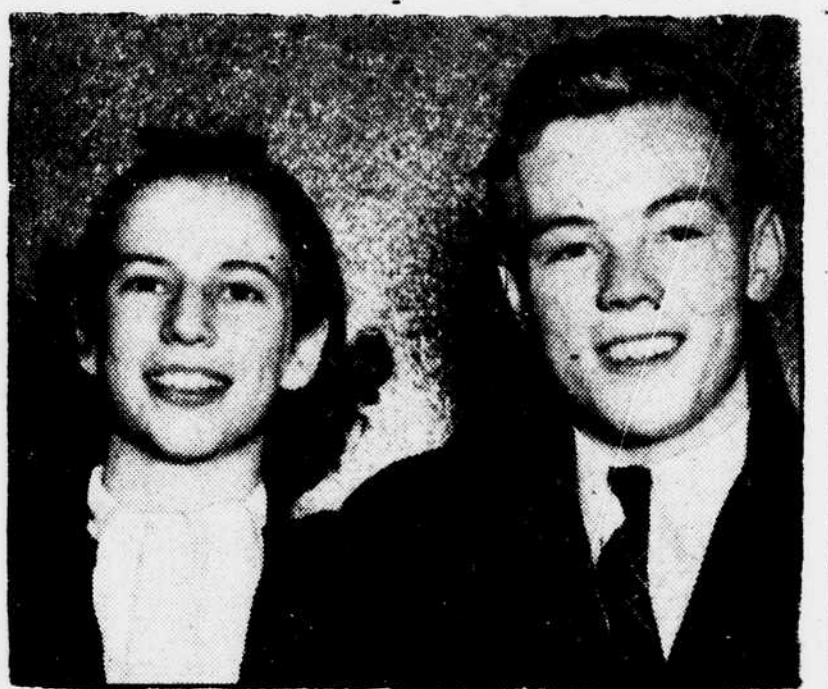
Another rescue squad, pulled from the mine at 9 o'clock, its members nauseated by carbon monoxide gas fumes, said they believed crews could reach the entombed men by morning.

Tom Salmond, a member of the squad, so ill he had to be assisted to the washhouse, said, "we are now making some effort to put the fire out."

He gasped out that the "fire had burned out walls which the squad was building, and let loose a lot of gas on it."

J. O. Hitt, a pit boss for a neighboring mine aiding in the rescue work, said the carbon monoxide gas was very difficult to detect.

Couple, 16, Crash White House New Year Party on a Dare



BEATRICE WHITE AND JOE MEASELL.

—Star Staff Photo.

Two 16-year-old Woodrow Wilson High School students performed the almost impossible feat of "crashing" the White House New Year Eve family party last night and getting autographs of President and Mrs. Roosevelt and their son John.

"I wish it had been a check he

assigned to guard the President's life would become alarmed.

"We did it on a dare on a scavenger hunt," Joe explained, "and we had extremely good luck."

"We just walked right up to the main door at the White House, and had told the guards he was expecting to see the President. We learned later that Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau was attending the New Year party at the White House and had told the guards he was expecting two young people. The guards must have taken us for the expected guests."

Ushered Right In.

"Anyway, we were ushered right in and someone took our coats and led us upstairs. I waited outside the room where Mr. Roosevelt and his guests were watching a movie."

Joe obtained the President's signature and had a friendly chat with him while his "girl friend," Beatrice White of 5367 Twenty-eighth street N.W., talked Mrs. Roosevelt into signing a card for her.

Get Scolding.

Mrs. Roosevelt sent the youngsters home with a scolding, too.

"Now you know it isn't right to walk into peoples' houses like that," Joe said she told them. "You might have got shot."

John Roosevelt also joined in the scolding, Joe said, pointing out the possible dangers to White House "crashers" if the Secret Service men

signed," said Joseph Measell of 4121 Connecticut avenue N.W., as he gazed with pride at the President's signature on a White House card.

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